



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: HIRA1140

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Mukouyama et al.	Art Unit:	1651
Application No.:	09/408,142	Examiner:	Marx, I.
Filed:	September 29, 1999	Conf. No.:	3645
Title:	METHODS FOR PRODUCING L-ASPARTIC ACID		

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Sir:

This is a request under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a response in connection with the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed October 27, 2003.

The requested extension is for one month, extending the period to December 27, 2003.

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8**

I hereby certify that the documents referred to as enclosed herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on this date, December 29, 2003, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Margaret M. Hasson

Name of Person Mailing Paper

Signature

01/07/2004 ZJUHR1 00000069 09408142

01 FC:1251

110.00 OP

Applicant: Mukouyama et al.  
Application No.: 09/408,142  
Filed: September 29, 1999  
Page 2

PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: HIRA1140

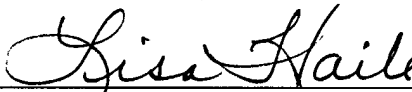
The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if there are any questions relating to this application.

A Check in the amount of \$110.00 is enclosed to cover the fee for filing a One Month Extension of Time. No further fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Response, if any additional fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Acct. No. 50-1355.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

12/29/03



Lisa A. Haile, Ph.D., J.D.  
Registration No. 38,347  
Telephone: 858-677-1456  
Facsimile: 858-677-1465

**USPTO CUSTOMER NUMBER 28213**  
**GRAY CARY WARE & FREIDENRICH LLP**  
4365 Executive Drive, Suite 1100  
San Diego, CA 92121-2133